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# THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911 DM Visit theDMonline.com  @thedm\_news

## *Delivering new solutions:* FedEx CEO challenges Honors College students



PHOTO BY: ANNA HAYWARD

Frederick W. Smith, founder and CEO of FedEx Corporation, speaks at the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College Fall Convocation on Tuesday..

**JOHN TOULOUPI**

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

**T**he Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College celebrated its 20th year with its annual fall convocation last night in the Ford Center.

Speakers included Dean of the Honors College Douglass Sullivan-Gonzalez, former CEO of Netscape Communications and principal donor of the SMBHC James L. Barksdale

and keynote speaker FedEx CEO and founder Frederick W. Smith.

Sullivan-Gonzalez opened the convocation by highlighting the strides the Honors College has made since its founding in 1997.

“In addition to numerically, the students’ sophistication of questions, their grit and their real passion for education has

been improving year by year,” Sullivan-Gonzalez said.

Since its inception, the SMBHC saw record growth and just recently completed a multi-million dollar renovation. The class of 2021 included more than 425 students from 28 states and one foreign country whose average GPA was a 3.97 and average ACT score of 31.

Sullivan-Gonzalez intro-

duced Barksdale, whose donations to the university and SMBHC have helped support and grow the school.

“I was approached by Chancellor Khayat to consider funding the Honors College or a couple other programs they dreamed up,” Barksdale said. “After coming here and talking

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## 6 students elected to ASB Senate

**SLADE RAND**

MANAGING EDITOR

Six students joined the Associated Student Body Senate as campus senators after an open seat election Tuesday night at the Senate’s first formal meeting of the semester.

Madison Demotts, Wright Rickets, Patrick Beene, Reed Adkins, Christian Rushing and Josh Dolsen claimed their seats on the ASB Senate at the start of the meeting. Each candidate used an allotted one minute to present a case for joining ASB Senate, and many cited their connection with and passion for the student body.

“I love this school, and I think I’d be a good asset to the Senate,” sophomore accounting major Patrick Beene said.

Junior biology major Josh Dolsen said his involvement with groups like Ole Miss Ambassadors and the Big Event will help him make a difference on ASB Senate.

SEE **ASB** PAGE 3

## Ole Miss student-athletes affected by recent storms

**SAM FARRIS**

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

Two large-scale hurricanes in the last couple weeks wreaked havoc on two of the nation’s most populous cities, and Ole Miss student-athletes from the affected areas could do little more than pray and wait for the safety of

their families, friends and hometowns.

The University of Mississippi is composed of a 60/40 split between Mississippi residents and out-of-state students. Likewise, nearly 50 percent of Ole Miss student-athletes hail from out of state. Two of the largest contributors to this out-of-state pool

are Texas and Florida – the states facing the most hurricane damage at the moment.

There are nine Rebel athletes hailing from either the Houston or Corpus Christie metropolitan areas. One of those student-athletes is sophomore running back D’Vaughn Pennamon, who scored his

first touchdown of the season two weeks ago against South Alabama. Just days before, he had been anxiously awaiting word from his family in Houston.

“It was just really nerve-racking watching all the devastation happen,” Pennamon said, reflecting on the day Harvey made landfall. “I kept calling

my family every couple of hours to make sure they were OK.”

Officials from the Red Cross reported that 32,000 people were displaced as a result of Harvey’s destruction, including Pennamon’s grandparents.

Following the storm, uni-

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COLUMN

# How Christians should respond to protests



**TRIPP BOND**  
COLUMNIST

There have been many protests in the news lately, and before this academic year is over, I fear there may be one here at the University of Mississippi. These protests usually end with increased hatred, inflamed tempers, violence and in the worst cases, death on both sides.

For those of us serious about following the way of Jesus of Nazareth, we must critically consider how to respond or whether we even should.

Answering the second consideration first, it is apparent that Christians both should and should not be involved with the protests. Allow me to elaborate.

Some well-meaning pastors in the local area have warned their congregants not to get involved with the protests at any cost, both for the safety of

their members and to prevent the kingdom of God from being associated with either movement.

I can agree to this second sentiment but not to the first. As followers of Jesus, we are expected to forfeit our safety out of self-sacrificial love for our neighbors (and our enemies).

As such, I cannot imagine that where there is violence and turmoil, the church should be absent, cowering in homes and dorm rooms instead of trying to inject peace and love into the situation.

After all, Jesus taught, “Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they will be called Children of God.” I believe those who want to seriously follow Jesus should respond and act to bring peace out of violence.

So what action, if any, am I advocating for? First, when the inevitable protest occurs, pray. Pray in groups or by yourself. Pray hard, and engage in fasting while doing so. Regardless of which side you are on, pray for both sides and the safety of all who are there.

Engage in nonviolence. If someone from the protest begins to berate you, whether physically or emotionally, turn the other cheek. Love your enemy as your friend.

Do an exercise with me: Put yourself in the shoes of your assaulter. Imagine you are physically or emotionally harming someone, and then that person says, “It’s OK that you’re doing this. I forgive you. I love you.” How taken aback would you be? How quickly would that confuse you and bring you to a full stop?

If it were me, I would be wondering why this person, who has every reason to raise his or her voice at me, fight back at me or hate me, is choosing to say, “I love and forgive you.” We often forget that our enemies are human beings with emotions and instead choose to view them as faceless robots of rage and evil.

This devalues the image of God in which they are made, and if you retaliate, you become a hypocrite for treating them in a way you would not want to be treated, simply because they did it to you first.

Don’t take a side in a rally. If at all possible, try to remain as objective as you can in the situation, and don’t allow your culture, your upbringing or your politics to color your view of the situation.

If you find yourself still agreeing with one group more than the other, refrain from

jumping in and arguing against the “opposition.” Instead, treat both groups with love, respect, patience and impartiality.

Lastly, form a missional group to bring love to the protesters. I’m not suggesting this for everyone, but I believe that, as Christians, we must “count up the cost” and recognize that love is something worth losing everything else for.

Before there’s even a hint of a protest, form a group of dedicated Christian friends and plan how you can minister to the protesters. This will likely look different from group to group, but the idea I like best is this: Create impartial, matching T-shirts that say something like, “Not a protester, just a Jesus freak.” Make signs, too.

Then, split the group in two and have one half go and take water to people on one side of the argument and the other group go and take water to the other side. See these people as humans, give them hugs and tell them you love them. Remember to stay impartial and nonviolent when engaging with the protesters.

This is what it looks like when Christians respond.

*Tripp Bond is a sophomore history major from Meridian.*

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Letters should include phone and email contact information so that editors can verify authenticity. Letters from students should include grade classification and major; letters from faculty and staff should include title and the college, school or department where the person is employed.



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MEMBER NEWSPAPER



# CONVOCAION

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to faculty and others, I was convinced the Honors College was the best place I could invest my money and my time at Ole Miss.”

Over the past 20 years, Barksdale has invested more than \$31 million to the university and is a firm believer the SMBHC has changed the University of Mississippi.

“The university has become much more academically oriented than it used to be,” Barksdale said. “I don’t think we were as much of an academic institution back then, but we had a good time. I think the Honors College has played a key role.”

Barksdale welcomed Smith, the keynote speaker of the night, and one of the longest tenured and most successful CEOs throughout the country.

“Over 50 years ago, Fred was in his dorm room and came up with an idea for a paper based on his own observations about Connecticut the Northeast, and the United States on the need to move small parts to repair machines,” Barksdale said. “This would be the basis of FedEx.”

Smith graduated from Yale in 1966 and spent four years in the Marines, serving in Vietnam before founding FedEx in 1973.

“I was your age when I came up with the idea of the hub and spokes system to solve the problem that I’d first seen several years earlier at Yale,” Smith said. “Little did I know this idea would lead to the size and scope it is today.”

Smith began his address by explaining how FedEx is run. The company is organized into four different operating companies — Express, Ground, Freight and Services — to efficiently run the business.

“Often several of our operating companies work together to deliver solutions,” Smith said. “With Hurricane Harvey, FedEx Express, Freight and Services to get critical supplies to the disaster site that our relief organization partners wanted us to transport.”

However, the key to FedEx’s success, according to Smith, is its culture.

“The founding principle of FedEx is people, service, product —

or PSP,” Smith said. “Any FedEx team member knows the purple promise — to make every FedEx experience outstanding.”

After telling FedEx’s story, Smith dove into the rules and regulations that allowed FedEx and other large retailers and online companies to grow during the last 40 years.

Transitioning from FedEx to current events in the United States, Smith criticized the toxic political climate, citing the rise of negative ads and the polarization of cable news.

Along with social media, he said people only see and hear what they want to hear, creating an echo chamber and volatile political climate. Furthermore, due

Smith said the recent French presidential elections gave him hope. Using volunteers and reaching out to people throughout France, Emmanuel Macron was able to break the two-party system and potentially usher in real change France hasn’t seen in years.

“I think the United States can learn from Macron,” Smith said. “Here with our congressional system, all it might take is for five or six senators who are willing to form a centrist party and attract a presidential candidate to lead them.”

Smith called for rational thinking and political will to fix America. He reiterated the words of Sen. John McCain, who said our

“Over 50 years ago, Fred was in his dorm room and came up with an idea for a paper based on his own observations about Connecticut, the Northeast and the United States on the need to move small parts to repair machines. This would be the basis of FedEx.”

-Jim Barksdale

to the low barrier of entry online, Smith said the creation of fake news and propaganda is an increasingly growing threat.

“With political parties gravitating toward extremes and unwillingness to listen and compromise, we can’t move America forward,” Smith said. “We can’t fix healthcare, we can’t replace antiquated tax laws and we can’t fix our country’s deteriorating infrastructure.”

Globally, Smith said there are serious international problems, ranging from economic and trade disagreements with China to nuclear war with North Korea and issues with Russia, Venezuela and terrorism.

Even through all of the global problems, there are some positives, according to Smith.

political system relies on pragmatic problem solving and pragmatic compromise from even the most opposing sides, but it can no longer do so.

“If this country is to continue to be recognized as a world leader after World War II, we must find rational thinking and political will to fix America,” Smith said.

He ended his speech by calling for students to forge into the world with open minds and think critically open the problems facing the country.

“I think these answers can come from the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College,” Smith said. “I know you will be educated and good citizens, and as such, you’re the best hope for delivering new solutions.”

# ASB

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“I believe that I can take those aspects I’ve learned working with those organizations and apply them to Senate,” he said. “I believe that I can give back because Ole Miss has truly given me a lot.”

Later, senators voted to pass a resolution calling for the suspension of university activities when a tornado warning is issued via a RebAlert or other official university communication and a resolution for the Senate to recognize the inaugural ASB Diversity and Inclusion week Oct. 2-5.

“We specifically picked it after IFC and NPC recruitment because we know before then many actives of these organizations will be busy,” the resolution’s co-author Sen. Leah Davis said.

Sen. Galina Ostrovsky, who co-authored the resolution, said it will serve to recognize the week as a whole instead of promoting one event in particular.

“As a student body Senate, we represent all forms of campus,” Sen. Ty Deemer said.

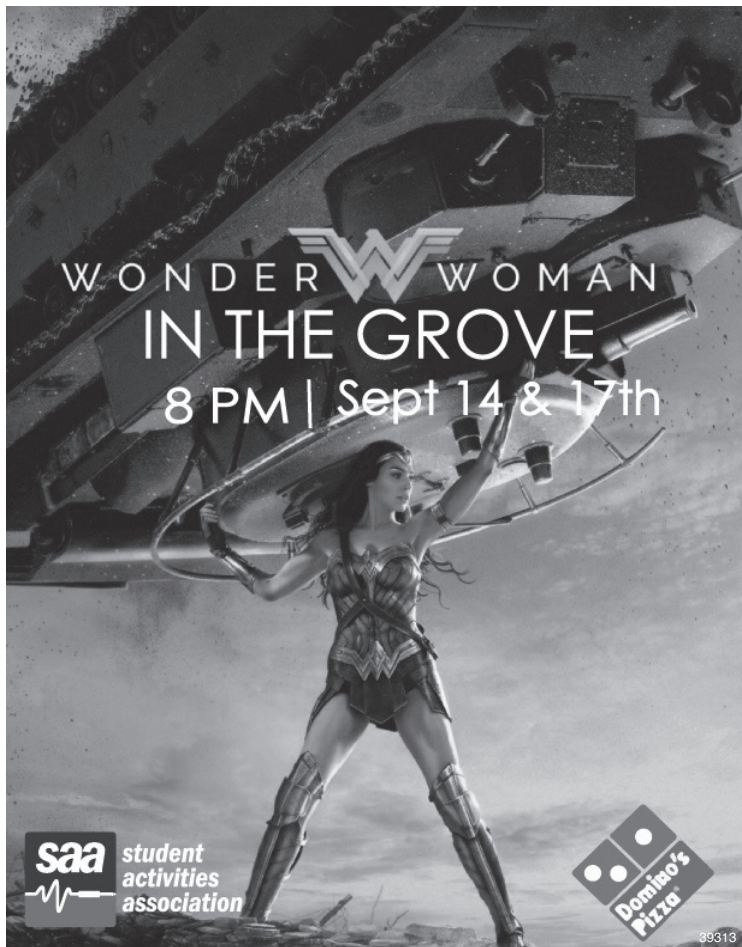
“We have a seat for every part of campus, every corner, every person, and that is exactly what this week is about.”

Earlier, Sen. Deemer led the Senate in the meeting’s invocation, asking senators to reflect on themselves in a reading from Peter Dale Wimbrow’s poem “The Man in the Glass.”

The Senate passed the resolution on suspending class during tornado warnings with unanimous consent shortly after welcoming the new senator additions. Currently, the university will only suspend activities when the campus emergency sirens sound. The resolution offers to allow RebAlerts to trigger a similar campus shut down, and stated that it will be up to instructors’ discretion whether to resume class once a tornado warning has expired.

Sen. Coco McDonnell authored the resolution and said she spoke with Noel Wilkin, interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, before bringing it to the floor.

“He really likes this resolution and is also really happy students are taking an interest in emergency procedures,” McDonnell said.



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# Moneybagg Yo brings mature sound to The Lyric

HANNAH WILLIS  
STAFF WRITER

The Lyric Oxford will feature up-and-coming rapper Moneybagg Yo tonight.

Outside of the Memphis rap scene, Yo is relatively new, but he has shown himself to be a rapper worth keeping your eye on. His first releases, a series of singles, came out in 2015. One of his mixtapes went on to win the 2015 Memphis Hip Hop Award for mixtape of the year. His full-length mixtape, “Federal Reloaded,” also came out in 2015 and featured Yo Gotti and Migos’ Quavo. Collaborations with other rappers were a consistent part of Yo’s earliest music.

In the past two years, Yo has burst onto the national hip-hop stage, mostly due to his continued partnership with the well-established Gotti and, most importantly, his signing with Gotti’s Collective Music Group (CMG) record label.

Yo’s 2016 “2 Federal” saw further work with Gotti, who is featured on each of the 19 tracks. Blac Youngsta, another CMG member, is also featured on the album.

Yo’s experiences growing up in Memphis provided much of the inspiration for “2 Federal,”

and he introduced a new level of edge and grit to his lyrics. This album is defined by his relationships with the other artists on the CMG label. Fans of Gotti or other similar rappers will really enjoy Yo’s sound.

Yo’s references to his troubled upbringing form the foundation of his newer music, but he often contrasts those struggles with his recent successes. There’s definitely a certain sound in much of his music, and there isn’t really much distinction from song to song, but if you like what you hear, Wednesday night won’t disappoint.

This year has brought a lot of new music from this artist, as well as a step away from featuring other rappers on his songs. Greatly contrasting with “Federal Reloaded,” Yo’s album “Heartless,” released earlier this year, only features other artists on two of the 12 songs, and none of them happen to be Yo Gotti, either. “Heartless” charted the Billboard 200 and introduced a similar but more mature sounding rapper.

Not one to slow down, Yo released another full-length mixtape this August, titled “Federal 3X,” that continued his break from featuring other artists on his work and made it to the No.

5 spot on the Billboard 200. Once again, his childhood in Memphis contrasted with recent successes was a key theme to his lyrics. His most well-known song remains “Doin 2 Much,” featuring Yo Gotti, but “Federal 3X” has provided Yo with some of his biggest hits so far.

Yo is definitely a linear artist. Each new work signifies some growth or maturation in his creative process. The subject matter might stay relatively

the same and Yo never really swims beyond the shallow end of the lyrical pool, but with each new release, his sound evolves into something new.

For such a new artist, Yo has a large catalog of original work. He’s released four albums in two years and in the process has managed to make it into the national hip-hop discussion. This concert will provide Oxford the opportunity to see an artist who might one day be a great. His past work definite-

ly points to something big in the future.

If his music videos are any indication, concert attendees can look forward to seeing a grown man wearing some spectacular headbands. There isn’t anything earth-shatteringly unique about Yo’s music – expect a lot of references to sex and drugs.

Doors open at 8 p.m. with the show starting at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$30 and can be bought at the door as well as online.



PHOTO COURTESY: TICKETFLY



For more information visit [umatter.olemiss.edu](http://umatter.olemiss.edu)





# Prepare for fall weather changes with avocados

KENNEDY POPE  
STAFF WRITER

One of the few things you will never hear anyone say is “I wish I had bad skin.” Everyone, everywhere, wants healthy-looking skin. As mid-September approaches, the weather is changing, and our skin is being affected by it.

During these weather changes, our skin tends to freak out, just like our immune system does. A summer tan starts to fade, and skin cries out for those treatments to bring it that healthy glow.

The best way to cure your dry skin during these weather changes is by using a natural ingredient like avocado. Something as simple as eating an avocado, applying one directly to your face or buying an

avocado mask can help skin tremendously. Avocados contain vitamins A, D and E, all of which help nourish the skin and make it look more vibrant.

Avocados have become a staple of a healthy diet. Whether you eat avocados alone or in guacamole – which is simple to make and extremely healthy for you – your skin gains moisture. Cilantro, a common herb found in guacamole, contains an antioxidant that’s good for your whole body.

Eating them isn’t the only way to reap the benefits of avocados, though. When someone wears an avocado mask, nutrients soak deep into the skin to clear up any dry, flaky patches. Avocados also have anti-aging properties; the oleic acid in the avocados helps reduce redness and wrinkles.

Avocado masks are readily

available online. A five-star rated mask I have personally used is Juara’s Java Plum and Avocado Nourishing Mask. This mask leaves your face feeling so much softer right after applying.

Transition into rainy fall weather with ease by including these methods in your daily routine.

## Guacamole – 5 servings

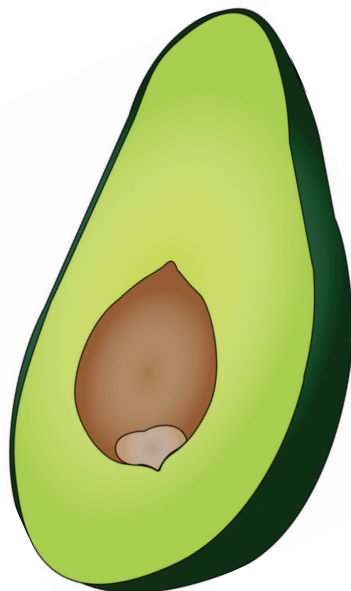
- 3 avocados, halved, seeded and peeled
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne
- 1/2 medium onion, diced
- 1/2 jalapeno pepper, seeded and minced
- 2 Roma tomatoes, seeded and diced

- 1 tablespoon chopped cilantro
  - 1 clove garlic, minced
- Place the scooped avocado pulp and lime juice in a large bowl, then toss to coat. Drain, but preserve the lime juice after all of the avocados have been coated. Use a fork to mash the avocados as you add the salt, cumin and cayenne. Then, fold in the onions, tomatoes, cilantro and garlic. Add one tablespoon of the reserved lime juice. Let sit at room temperature for one hour, then serve.

## DIY Avocado Mask

Mash half of an avocado in a bowl until it is soft and creamy. After you have mashed the avocado, mix in two tablespoons of honey and a half teaspoon of

coconut oil. Leave the mask on for a full 15 minutes and then remove it with warm water.



GRAPHIC BY: EMILY HOFFMAN

# Holly Springs artist preserves memories in exhibit

HOLLY HICKS  
STAFF WRITER

This semester, the University of Mississippi Museum will feature “Unwritten Memoir,” an exhibit that visually gives life to memories belonging to Holly Springs native Randy Hayes, and a reception is planned for 6 p.m. Thursday.

Hayes has been painting from photographs his entire career, but it was not until around 1990 that he began to put paint on top of photographs themselves.

In his “Unwritten Memoir” collection, Hayes used various methods to bring the canvases to life. He began by arranging select photographs into a grid.

Hayes said sometimes the grid itself is a photogenic narrative, while other times, he will paint on a larger photograph divided into a grid. Some grids are on canvases, while others are pinned to the wall as their own canvases. Hayes said his concept is continuously developing, and variations will evolve over time.

One painting featured is “Aphrodisius/Pass Christian.” For this diptych-style creation, Hayes found inspiration in the destruction left behind by Hurricane Katrina.

“After Hurricane Katrina, I went to the Gulf Coast,” he said. “I had been going there since I was a youngster. This time, however, all the familiar landmarks were gone.”

Though Hayes returned to the Gulf Coast in hopes of capturing a revelation, he went on to describe how his camera stayed in his car seat for hours as he tried to make sense of the devastation that was left.

“Finally, I realized that I was looking at a ruin, but it was a contemporary ruin,” Hayes said. “From that point on, I be-

gan to see in my mind comparisons with photographs I had taken of ruins in other parts of the world. I knew then that I would have to paint the ruins in pairs.”

Hayes said the inspiration for his paintings can come to him at any time.

“When I am out for exercise, ideas often come to me,” he said. “Other ideas come from analytical thinking. Travel, especially in an unfamiliar environment, often generates inspiration.”

Hayes’ work has been featured in the Mississippi Museum of Art, Contemporary Photography in Chicago and the U.S. Department of State. Many private and public collections have featured his art, as well as the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the New Museum



PHOTO BY: BILLY SCHUERMAN

“Unwritten Memoir,” an art exhibit created by Holly Springs artist Randy Hayes, is on display at the University of Mississippi Museum until December.

of Contemporary Art in New York.

When asked if he has a piece that holds a special significance to him, Hayes was unbiased.

“The paintings are a little like children,” he said. “I try not to have a favorite.”

“Unwritten Memoirs” has been on display at the Universi-

ty of Mississippi Museum since Aug. 22 and has been a stop on the Oxford Arts Crawl.

The University of Mississippi Museum will be hosting a reception with the artist this Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. during the opening reception and annual membership gala.

Debbie Nelson, who serves

as the membership, events and communications coordinator at the University of Mississippi Museum, is particularly excited about this collection.

“The museum is pleased to offer an extensive collection of Randy Hayes’ unique art,” she said. “His style of oil painting over photographs mounted on canvas brings incredible depth to each piece. Adding to the exhibit are display cases featuring memorabilia which coordinate with photographs from Hayes’ travels.”

Hayes said he hopes each viewer will have his or her own interpretation about what the work of art means.

The “Unwritten Memoirs” exhibit will be available for viewing through Dec. 9 at the University Museum.



# THE ROAD TO ATLANTIC CITY



# BEGINS AT Ole Miss.

## APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE IN 210 LESTER HALL



# ATHLETES

continued from page 1

iversity officials were quick to reach out to students from the Houston area, offering assistance through the Rebel Relief Disaster Fund, which was established earlier this year.

Head baseball coach Mike Bianco joined in the assistance, picking up on a Twitter challenge that encouraged baseball programs around the country to send university apparel to help Harvey victims.

“Todd Whitting, the head baseball coach at the University of Houston ... wanted as many baseball teams as possible to donate 20 program shirts and 10 pairs of shoes,” Bianco said. “Eventually, I picked up on it and was happy to join in on behalf of our team here at Ole Miss.”

Sixteen days after Harvey made landfall in southeast



PHOTO BY: WILSON BENTON

LEFT: D'Vaughn Pennamon runs for a first down during the first half against UT Martin. Ole Miss won 45-23. RIGHT: Outfielder Kylan Becker prepared for a pitch against Memphis earlier this season.

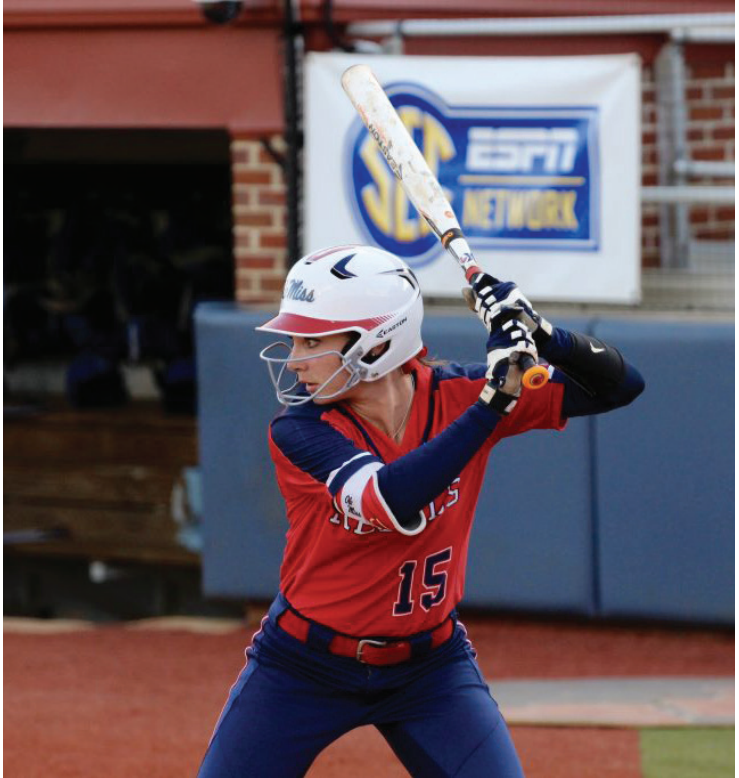


PHOTO BY: TAYLAR TEEL

Texas, one of the strongest hurricanes ever recorded in the Atlantic Ocean, Hurricane Irma, began to

bear down on the Sunshine State 1,200 miles away.

Kylan Becker, a sophomore outfielder on the softball team, came to Oxford from Miami, a city devastated by Irma.

Having grown up in South Beach, Florida, Becker is no stranger to hurricanes, but the last several days have been worrisome, nevertheless.

said. “The next thing we do is drain our pond so it does not overflow, and since my dad is a police officer, my family can actually stay at the station while the storm is going on.”

Associate Athletics Director Kyle Campbell said Athletics has begun reaching out to athletes from the affected areas.

lions of dollars in Houston alone, according to an article by the Los Angeles Times.

The economic damage presents a formidable challenge, but residents like Houston Texans defensive end J.J. Watt have already raised more than \$15 million. Though he lacks Watt’s social media fame,

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ACROSS

1 Cover crop

7 Half a candy?

10 Briefcase closer

14 Unwrapped

15 Thai neighbor

16 Indigo dye

17 Planet with rings

18 Tempe campus letters

19 Actress — Turner

20 Swede or Dane

23 Careful

26 Lubber's eye

27 Frequent

28 Attack

29 Sweater sizes

30 Tin container

31 Moon or planet

32 Buddy

33 Whinnied

37 Heartache

38 Oversaw

39 Not well

40 Hot time in Paris

41 Lengthwise

43 Overhead trains

44 Calendar abbr.

45 Casual greetings

46 Mac rivals

47 Swit co-star

48 Madrid abodes

51 Shelter

52 Melts together

53 Dread

56 B.C. or Que.

57 Peculiar

58 Fuel rating

62 Sake grain

63 "The Bells" author

64 Fastened

65 Genres

66 Hoosier st.

67 Trashy

DOWN

1 Spanish article

2 Eco-friendly feds

3 Obtain

4 Just bought

5 Compassion

6 Ms. Ferber

7 Razor fillers

8 Date palm locale

9 Part of speech

10 Divvying up

11 Diarist — Nin

12 Red Sea peninsula

13 Factory

21 Stockings

22 Is of use

23 Russell — of "Gladiator"

24 Baseball great Hank —

25 Taunted

29 ER pictures (hyph.)

30 Friars' rooms

32 Brown and simmer

33 Daughters' cousins

34 Makes healthy again

35 Piano exercise

36 Ballerina painter

42 Docks

46 Remained undecided

47 Daddy's sister

48 Blue Grotto isle

49 One of 12

50 Nimoy role

51 Deluded (2 wds.)

52 The "f" in f-stop

54 Kachina doll maker

55 Smoke-detector output

59 Fla. neighbor

60 — Perce tribe

61 Ben & Jerry's rival

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

WRAP AMAH SKI

AUDI BODED SHAD

GNAT RIDER KITE

SEMINAR DYNAMOS

FADE NET

ACCUSE CHEWEDUP

CALLA LUIS DONE

IRE FOILS RCA

DEAF AINT BRIAR

STRIPING CRISPY

OAR CLAP

PIERCED AUSTERE

LORD SATIN IDOL

OTIS THANK DESI

YAK SUEY ENYA

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“Being here in Oxford while the storm was hitting was really hard,” Becker said. “It was my little brother’s first hurricane experience, and I wanted to be there for him because I know he was super scared.”

Becker said her family members’ experience with brutal storms was key in preparing for Irma and they took necessary precautions to ensure their safety.

“We have accordion shutters on our house that we slide together,” Becker

“It was just really nerve-racking watching all the devastation happen. I kept calling my family every couple of hours to make sure they were okay.”

-D'Vaughn Pennamon

According to Campbell, the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee provided handwritten notes and candy bags to student-athletes affected by the storms.

As the storms weaken and gradually dissipate, the affected areas can begin to rebuild. However, it will not be an overnight process, as damage costs already total in the bil-

Pennamon began drumming up support on social media and reassuring people that every little bit counts.

“If you can help, please do so,” Pennamon said. “Anything at all can help. A prayer, a donation, just anything at all can go a long way.”

## SUDOKU®

Puzzles by KrazyDad

	5			2			9	
1						8		2
				8			1	
			7		3			1
3				9		4		7
4					8		5	
	4				6			
9		1						3
	8			9			5	

HOW TO PLAY

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

### INSANE

9	5	1	3	9	4	2	8	7
3	7	4	8	5	2	1	9	6
8	2	6	6	7	1	3	4	5
6	3	5	2	8	7	9	1	4
7	8	9	4	1	6	5	2	3
1	4	2	5	3	9	7	6	8
5	1	3	6	9	8	4	7	2
2	9	8	7	4	5	6	3	1
4	9	7	1	2	3	8	5	9



MERRITT  
continued from page 8

tivator, that inspirer,” Merritt said. “Learning as much as I can from him, not just about goalkeeping but about soccer in general, like when we watch film, has been a big factor in my drive to keep going and to be the best.”

Along with his knowledge of the game, Thompson brings a rigorous practice schedule full of realistic game situations and scenarios. Keying in on preparation, the more looks Merritt gets in practice, the more ready she is to come first whistle.

“We’re very prepared for almost every situation that you’re faced with in the game,” she said. “Rob makes sure that the stuff I see every day in net is realistic to what I’m going to see in the game. You just have to trust that what you’ve done and what you’ve worked hard for is going to take over, and save the ball.”

Merritt said she finds herself looking to different athletes for inspiration on different things, but they’re not always stars of her sport. Gravitating toward strong female leaders, she grew up watching

Mia Hamm, has seen firsthand what Alex Morgan has done to positively grow the women’s game and loves watching Serena Williams dominate her craft.

“You watch these women at such high levels and think, ‘I want to do that,’ or ‘I can achieve that,’” she said. “They paved the way for girls like us who, when we were younger, or even just a few years ago, soccer wasn’t a big deal at all, and now we’ve had the most-watched World Cup to date.”

Regardless of her idols, coaches and inspirations, when it comes down to game time, Merritt only knows how to be herself. Locking into what she calls a “slobberknocker mentality,” it’s all out for 90 minutes.

“Hard-working, blue-collar, someone that you know that when (she) steps on the field (she’s) going to give it (her) all,” Merritt said. “That’s the mentality I carry with me and try to provide to the team. You should be willing to sacrifice anything and give it all for the result you want.”

Just nine games into her redshirt junior year, Merritt is enrolled in graduate school at Ole Miss, which will carry her through a fifth and true-senior year on the field. Looking

ahead, the goal is to continue her career professionally.

“I would hope I can play at the pro level,” she said. “Whether that’s overseas or in the U.S., it just depends on what happens these next couple of years.”

However, first comes the Rebels’ next test of the 2017 season. Taking on a prominent 6-1 Florida Gator program in the first SEC matchup of the year, Merritt will hope to continue her hot streak in the net and leave Florida 1-0 in conference play.

“Every game in the SEC has turned into a battle,” she said. “I think any time we get an SEC win, it’s a big motivator to say, ‘OK, let’s keep going. We can be successful.’”

2017 SEASON  
»statistic breakdown«

Playtime: 632 minutes

Save percentage: 92.3%

>No. 2 in the SEC for save percentage

12 saves in 7 games



Leads SEC in shutouts this season with

5

GRAPHIC BY: HAYDEN BENGE

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# Marnie Merritt has Ole Miss soccer in good hands

GRAYSON WEIR  
CO SPORTS EDITOR

Marnie Merritt has been preparing her whole life to be a part of something special.

Her love of soccer came at an early age; Merritt found her home in the net around the age of 12. Quickly realizing her field skills weren't quite up to par with the other 12-year-olds, her coaches put her in the goal, and it stuck.

For Merritt, an all-state and All-American player on her North Carolina high school's state champion team, the move certainly worked.

Now as the starting goalkeeper for an undefeated Ole Miss team, Merritt has only allowed one goal in the Rebels' nine games this year (in a 1-1 2OT draw against top-25 ranked Michigan).

However, the idea of playing at the NCAA level was something of a dream for her.

"I can tell you that I would have never, ever thought that I would play college soccer; 6-year-old Marnie would be shocked that I'm

here right now," Merritt said through a smirk. "But you reach an age in your career and decide, 'Hey, this is something I want to do' and make a life of it."

Merritt, who realized during her freshman year of high school she wanted

to play in college, committed to Ole Miss as a junior. Throughout the recruiting process, the decision became a matter of where felt most like home and which program offered the biggest opportunity to be involved in something bigger.

"I was told to go where they show you the love, go where you can make an impact and go where you can make a difference," Merritt said. "At the time, Ole Miss was a program on the rise who were making their name in the SEC,

and I wanted to be a part of something like that."

Merritt said she found the transition between high school and college sizable but manageable. Redshirting her freshman year, she benefited from a full season of learning how the game is different, how the Ole Miss system is run and how SEC soccer is played.

"In club and high school, you're there to be a shot-stopper," she laughed. "Now, in the college game, you're involved more with your feet; you're involved more in every aspect of the game rather than just saving the ball when it comes to you."

Goalkeeper coach Rob Thompson has helped Merritt work to compete on the highest level during her move from high school to Ole Miss and throughout her time here on the team. Thompson, who was a three-time all-conference and two-time all-region player at Lock Haven University, has extensive experience as a goalkeeper coach on both the professional and collegiate levels.

"He has been that mo-



PHOTO BY: MARLEE CRAWFORD

SEE MERRITT PAGE 7

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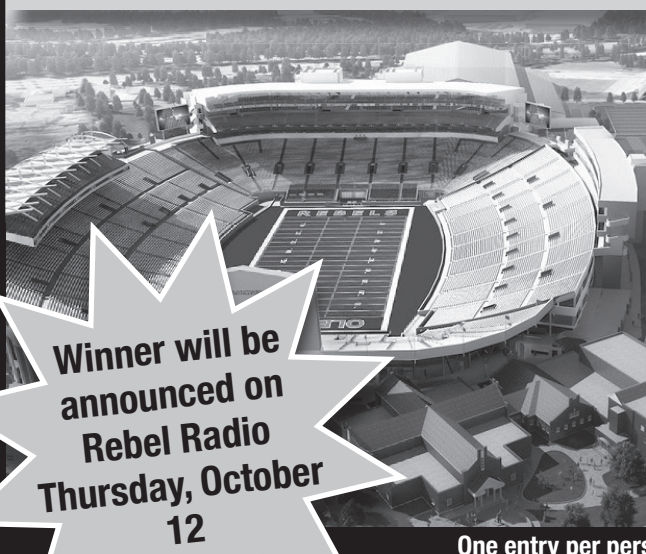
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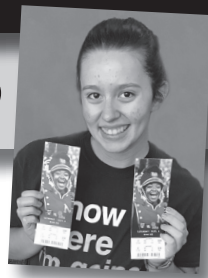
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